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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Poland

REPORT NO.

SUBJECT

Ships Observed in Gdynia

DATE DISTR.

28 October 1953

NO. OF PAGES

2

25X1 DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

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PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

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1. On the morning of 29 June 1953 the naval harbor at Gdynia was almost empty of units, but during the forenoon a number of naval vessels came into the harbor. Vessels observed were: a supply-ship type vessel, the destroyer BLYSKAWICA, and two ships (these last two ships departed later in the day).

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2. On 30 June 1953 the following units were in the naval harbor at Gdynia:

a. Two large amphibious craft about the same size as the English

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striker type.

b. One, somewhat smaller and more slender amphibious craft

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c. One large tug boat this vessel has made a number of trips to and from Hel carrying troops.

d. Three submarines Newly painted light gray.

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on the upper part of the conning tower plating there were four big holes about the size of a porthole.

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Apparently there was no glass in the holes.



conning tower

forward aft

The submarines lay alongside a quay that was framed with a stone edge, but the quay roadway was still under construction.

3. Building activity around the naval harbor:

a. Some new horseshoe-shaped barracks are being built but the construction is making slow progress.

b. Just north of the naval harbor there is some additional building activity. However, no building was observed which could be indicative of submarine bunkers.

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- c. In the naval harbor itself construction is continuing on wharf plans and new bridge plans.

4. Observations in Gdansk (Danzig) Bay.

- a. On 30 June 1953 [redacted] minesweeping operations. The units proceeded individually, but apparently went back and forth in accordance with a certain time schedule. They had something in tow. [redacted] 25X1
- b. A small vessel which looked actually like a miniature BLYSKAWICA was conducting operations in the bay. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] Sometimes it stood dead in the water, then it got under way at flank speed, laying down a smoke screen and undertaking difficult maneuvers.

5. Miscellaneous.

- a. [redacted] on 30 June 1953 Marshal Rokossowski was expected in Gdynia in order to inspect a new sailors' home. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] three cars with police in civilian clothes and in uniforms arrive at close intervals. Each car was occupied by four or five men who distributed themselves as casual bystanders around the building, [redacted] 25X1
- b. All the guard personnel in the Gdynia harbor appeared in clean and new khaki uniforms. Possibly it was in connection with the awaited visit of the Marshal. 25X1
- c. On the evening of 29 June 1953, a number of illuminated naval vessels were observed and a great deal of fireworks could be seen. [redacted] 25X1
- [redacted] it was in celebration of a sort of midsummer festival.

6. Observations in the merchant ship harbor.

- b. Distributed over the rest of the harbor basin:

[redacted]

Polish LUBLIN
Polish one unidentified
Polish BUG
Polish WARMIA

[redacted]

7. Guard and control conditions in the harbor.

The control commission's arrival aboard was delayed because of the many ships that were in the harbor. [redacted] Guards were posted immediately on the ship's arrival; normally two men. Inspection was very light. Binoculars and cameras are no longer sealed up, just as it is no longer forbidden to use them during the stay in the harbor. 25X1

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